Complaints against falsification of voters lists in Tripura

1013. SHRI NARAYAN KAR: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chief Election Commissioner of India has received any complaint in regard to falsification of voter's list while enrolling voters for 1989 in Tripura;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a Central team was sent to look into the complaint in detail in regard to the inclusion of minors and Bangladeshi nationals in these lists; and

(c) if so, the results of the investigations made by the Central team in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI HANS RAJ BHARDWAJ): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Election Commission had received certain complaints alleging *inter alia* that in the preparation of the draft electoral rolls in Tripura ineligible persons had been included and those eligible excluded. The Commission asked the Chief Electoral Officer to look into the complaints and also sent its team to Tripura for on-the-spot verification, etc. It was found that the allegations were generally not true. After considering claims and objections as per procedure, the electoral rolls in Tripura have also been finally published on 16.5.1989 and the Election Commission has not also received any complaints after the final publication of the rolls.

Clearance of Pooyamkutty Hydro Electric Project in Kerala

1014. SHRI THOMAS KUTHIRAVATTOM: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that clearance from environmental angle has been given to Pooyamkutty Hydro Electric Project in Kerala State; and

(b) if so, when and if not, what are the reasons for delay?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) and (b) Yes Sir, this Project was accorded environmental approval in June, 1985 but has subsequently been rejected from forestry angle in November, 1988

Pending cases in Kerala High Court

1015. SHRI THOMAS KUTHIRAVATTOM: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of cases pending in Kerala High Court at present;

(b) what is the number of cases pending since the last ten years and five years respectively; and

(c) whether the number of judges in Kerala High Court is proposed to be increased in the light of large number of pending cases?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b) As on 30.6.1989, 38607 Main cases were pending in Kerala High Court. The number of cases pending since last ten years and five years were 14 and 4969 respectively.

(c) A decision has been taken to create 5 new posts of Additional Judges with effect from the dates appointments are made against these posts.

Price of Natural Rubber

1016. SHRI THOMAS KUTHIRAVATTOM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of rubber imported during 1989 so far and the price at which this is released;